

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

DAVID L. WESTERDALE

Serial No.: To be Assigned
(Continuation-in-Part of U.S.S.N. 10/131,066)

Filed: Filed Herewith

For: VEHICLE HITCH ASSEMBLY

Attorney Docket No.: MPC 0123 PUS1

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)**

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97-1.98, the references listed and identified on the attached Form PTO/SB08A are being submitted herewith for consideration by the Examiner. This Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1).

While this Statement is being filed in compliance with the duty of disclosure, citation of the attached references is not to be construed as an admission that any of the references are "material" as defined under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper, including all enclosures referred to herein, is being deposited on the below date with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Express Mail Label No. EV 185601686 US addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

July 30, 2003
Date of Deposit

Susan Shepherd
Name of Person Signing

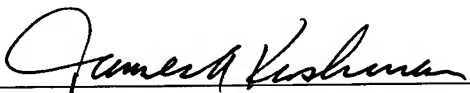
Susan Shepherd
Signature

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of the cited references are not being provided since the references were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. 10/131,066, filed April 24, 2002(pending), of which the present application is a continuation-in-part.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID L. WESTERDALE

Date: July 30, 2003

By: 
James A. Kushman
Reg. No. 25,634
Attorney for Applicant

BROOKS & KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	To Be Assigned
				Filing Date	Herewith
				First Named Inventor	David L. Westerdale
				Group Art Unit	Unknown
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	MPC 0123 PUS1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁹
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		EP	491,241		Laltlomaki	06-1992		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁹ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.